Accused Agent Linked To Brooklyn Y Branch

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McBurney Officials Refer Job - Seekers to Karl T. Marx's DAK

PM Exclusive

In the McBurney Branch of the YMCA, 215 W. 23d St., are the two medium-sized, unpretentious rooms which serve as an office for the DAK (German-American Conference) Vocational and Employment Service.

According to the directory of job placement and guidance services recently issued by the Welfare Council of New York City, men of German descent should consult the DAK for guidance service, in the form of "adjustment counseling and naturalization aid."

Men who go over to 215 W. 23d St. probably won't find Karl T. Marx, the man who is treasurer of the DAK. He isn't in the office much these days. He's busy over in Newark, where he's being tried before Federal Judge Thomas Meaney as an alleged secret agent of Germany.

The McBurney Y's executive director, Robert B. Reeves, carefully explained that Marx was not on the YMCA pay roll, but that he pays $100 monthly for the rooms the DAK uses, and for the Y's services. The Y, as a tax-exempt institution, technically doesn't rent out office room.

Correction

There is, Reeves admitted, some connection between the DAK and the Y's vocational service. German-Americans who consult the Y are often referred to the DAK.

"When publicity about Marx's connection with the indicted DAB (German American Vocational League) first appeared," said Reeves, "I consulted with the chairman of our board of managers, Herbert C. Freeman, and with R. L. Dickinson, executive vice-president of the New York YMCA.

"We decided that we would take no action until Marx was actually proved guilty. We had no wish to crucify him, and we considered that we were practising Democracy, that this was the Christian thing to do.

"After all, the only thing he was accused of was distributing and writing Nazi propaganda. He never killed, never did physical violence to anyone. He's been as meek as a sheep since all this started.

"He's had offices here for 12 or 13 years and he never did anything which could be construed or interpreted as seditious in the Y."

Marx is accused in a Federal indictment handed down last October of writing for DAB publications. The DAB, in turn, is described as directly affiliated with the German Labor Front.

Continued Writing

He resigned from the indicted organization in 1938, but continued writing articles for the League's magazine, *In Retrospect*.

Both Freeman, who is vice-president of the North American Co., and Dickinson agree with Reeves as to Marx's continued tenancy in the Y.

"It's the American principal to await the results of trial by jury," said Freeman. "We, particularly as a philanthropic organization, saw no other way.